

REMARKS

The rejections of Claims 18 and 25 as being anticipated by Sieber et al under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), of Claims 19, 29 and 32 as being unpatentable over Sieber et al in view of Shafer et al under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and of Claims 22-24, 26, 27 and 30 as being unpatentable over Sieber et al also under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are respectfully traversed.

Reconsideration is requested in view of the attached verified translation of Applicants' certified priority document filed in this case on December 30, 2005. Applicants' effective filing date of June 30, 2003 is thus prior to the effective U.S. filing date of the Sieber et al patent. Therefore, all claims in this application should now be allowable.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

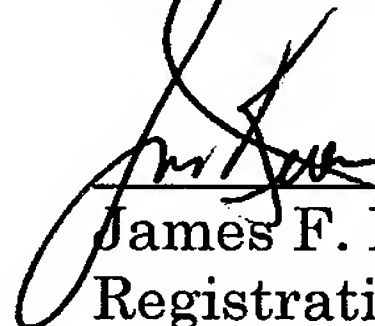
If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and

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please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit
Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #095309.57214US).

August 6, 2008

Respectfully submitted,



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